

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
February 13, 2015

Dates to Remember:

February 16, 2015 – City Commission Meeting

Spring Cleaning – March 28 – “No Butts About It”

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- In preparation for the Hendry County Fair, the final fire/safety inspection at the Fairgrounds was completed this week. The Fair opens on Friday, February 13th, with the parade on Saturday, February 14th at 2:00 p.m.
- A new business, Tangles Hair Salon, has replaced Roxy Shoes at 107 Bond Street.
- We have asked to join the Community Rating System (CRS) regarding the upcoming floodplain map changes. They will conduct an informative meeting explaining the steps required to join the CRS. This will assist existing property owners to apply for flood insurance for reduced premiums when the Special Hazard flood maps are implemented in July 2015.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- The One-Book-One Community program is building up momentum. Books have been placed in every school in the county and plans are being made in each for their sharing. A feature of the thrust this year is to promote disability awareness. As a result, the Library has found someone who is himself disabled, but highly successful (born blind, is now in his 30s, but already has a doctorate and a successful business) to go to both high schools and both middle schools to speak with students on how to be a success in spite of a disability, regardless of what that disability may be. The principals of all the schools contacted are pretty interested. Again, the book is *Out of my Mind* by Sharon Draper and the culminating event will be on February 26, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the Clewiston Library.
- Our African American History month program will be held on 2/23/15 at 5:30 p.m. in the Library. Some schools have already selected African American students to be honored.
- The Library will soon be in a position to purchase a subscription to e-books for our residents, based on an increase in our State Aid funding. We will let you know more as soon as the details are worked out.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- Operational plans are in place for the Hendry County Fair and Fair parade. The extra security will be provided cooperatively with the SO.
- Officers are searching for a suspect related to two burglaries last week. The suspect has been identified, but not located at this point. All stolen property has been recovered.

- Unlocked vehicles in the Sugarland Circle area are being pilfered again. Please be mindful to lock your car doors and remind your neighbors as well.
- A vehicle was stolen from a San Luiz residence. It has since been recovered.
- Code Enforcement is backed up due to computer software system failure. We have several hundred cases waiting to be filed. Our IT Administrator is working hard to help us resolve the issue.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
 - 1218** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 624** Complaints Investigated
 - 29** Traffic Citations Issued
 - 19** Traffic Warnings Issued
 - 19** Arrests Made
 - 67** Merchant Escorts Provided
 - 19** Alarms Responded To
 - 4** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- Street Maintenance: (1) Staff patched pot holes on Friday. (2) Civic Park plant material was delivered on Tuesday and planted Wednesday. (3) The guard rail on Francisco & Alverde was repaired.
- US 27: All Royal Palms on US27 were fertilized and the struggling Juniper removed and the ground tilled. 100 Dwarf Bougainvillea and 75 Saw Palmettos were ordered.
- Building Maintenance (1) Staff has been working on the Judge's platform and float for the Hendry County Fair parade.
- Paving project 2015: The thermal plastic street markings were installed this week.
- Surplus Equipment: All equipment deemed surplus by the Commission has been delivered to Week's Auction for sale.

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- The power blink on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, was caused by an Osprey attempting to build a nest on a utility pole. Steps have been taken to prevent the nest from being built.
- The Electric crew repaired a bad underground feed to lights at the Fairgrounds and made other preparations for the Fair which begins February 13th. A section of secondary electric wire was replaced in the 300 block of West Aztec/West Haiti.
- The poles were set at the west-end Welcome to Clewiston sign and the banner hung for the Hendry County Fair. The wiring on the old banner poles has been removed.
- The Water/Sewer crew checked the lift station at the Fairgrounds prior to the Fair opening and repaired several water breaks this week. The lift station pump at Walgreens was replaced.
- The correct bulbs have been received and the High School scoreboard will be re-lamped.
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom or the City's website page www.clewiston-fl.gov. You may update your information at any time through the same link.

- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or call our office.
- **DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION!** Visit our office today.
- **ONLINE UTILITY PAYMENT IS NOW AVAILABLE!** Our Online Utility Website is up and running. Payments can be made by credit or debit card. You can also review your account activity, consumption history and request certain work orders. You can register your account by visiting our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov.